70 Collier Street
P.O. Box 400
Barrie, ON L4M 4T5

City of Barrie

Final

Seniors and Accessibility Advisory Committee

Monday, March 18, 2024 | **4:00 PM** | **Sir Robert Barrie Room**

SENIORS AND ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT
For consideration by the Community Safety Committee on April 17, 2024.

The meeting was called to order by the Co-Chair, Catherine Kenwell at 4:02 p.m. The following were in attendance for the meeting:

Present: 6 - C. Kenwell
G. Kavanagh
K. MacDonald
L. Pope
R. Garvin
R. Meier

Absent: 4 - Councillor N. Nigussie
D. Smith
E. Saba
W. Delo

ALSO PRESENT:
Councillor, A. Courser.

STAFF:
Coordinator of Elections and Special Projects, T. McArthur
Legislative Coordinator, D. Glenn
Manager of Transit and Parking Business Services, H. Miller
Supervisor of Transit Operations and Infrastructure, J. Zimmerman

The Seniors and Accessibility Advisory Committee met and reports as follows:

SECTION "A"

PRESENTATION CONCERNING AN UPDATE ON BARRIE TRANSIT AND BUS STOPS

Jason Zimmerman, Supervisor of Transit Operations and Infrastructure gave a presentation regarding the Barrie Transit routes and bus stops. He discussed the Transit On Demand as a flexible and convenient Barrie Transit service that operates without a fixed schedule or route that users can book through an application.

Mr. Zimmerman explained the phasing stages to update the program taking place in 2024/2025 that includes additional transit routes and changes to the existing routes.

Members of Committee asked questions to Mr. Zimmerman and received responses.

MEETING SCHEDULE AND TIME

Tara McArthur, Coordinator of Elections and Special Projects discussed the schedule and meeting time with the Committee.

Members of Committee agreed to move the meeting time back to 4:00 pm, with the schedule going back to meeting on a monthly basis.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE INNISFIL ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGARDING THE BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS AWARENESS PROGRAM.

Catherine Kenwell, Co-Chair discussed an email received from the Town of Innisfil Accessibility Advisory Committee regarding its Breaking Down Barries Awareness Program. She advised that four training sessions are being held by the Innisfil Accessibility Advisory Committee and encouraged members of Committee to participate in the sessions.

Ms. Kenwell advised that any members wishing to participate in the session to email the Committee's Legislative Coordinator.

REFERRED MOTION 24-G-050 FROM CIRCULATION LIST DATED FEBRUARY 28, 2024 CONCERNING BARRIE TRANSIT - FREE SENIORS SERVICE UPDATE

Heather Miller, Manager of Business Services, provided an overview of the Circulation List Memorandum dated February 28, 2024 concerning Barrie Transit - Free Seniors Services Update that was referred to the Seniors and Accessibility Advisory Committee by General Committee on February 28, 2024.

Ms. Miller highlighted the current program for seniors receiving two days of free transit on Tuesdays and Thursdays, as well as a discounted transit bus pass.

Members of Committee asked a number of questions to Ms. Miller and received responses.

The Committee agreed that they would like staff to further investigate additional free transit options for seniors due to many seniors being on a fixed income as well as any discounts or free transit options for specialized transit riders.

The Seniors and Accessibility Advisory Committee met and recommends adoption of the following recommendation(s):

SECTION "B"

INVESTIGATION - ADDITIONAL FREE TRANSIT OPTIONS FOR SENIORS

That staff in the Transit and Parking Strategy Department investigate the feasibility of offering additional free transit options for seniors and report back to the Seniors and Accessibility Advisory Committee.

This matter was recommended to Community Safety Committee for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 4/17/2024.

INVESTIGATION - DISCOUNTS OR FREE TRANSIT OPTIONS FOR SPECIALIZED TRANSIT RIDERS

That staff in the Transit and Parking Strategy Department investigate the feasibility of discounts or free transit options for specialized transit riders and report back to the Seniors and Accessibility Advisory Committee.

This matter was recommended to Community Safety Committee for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 4/17/2024.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

CHAIRMAN